

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USNATO 02842 181110Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05  
/072 W

-----040698 190741Z /14

R 181049Z MAR 78  
FM USMISSION USNATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0120  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA  
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA  
USNMR SHAPE BE  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 02842

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, UK  
SUBJECT: UK TO CONVERT USED VC-10 AIRCRAFT TO TANKERS

1. IN A LETTER DATED MARCH 14, 1978, UK DEFAD (PETERS)  
INFORMED ASYG MUMFORD AND DRC MEMBERS THAT HMG HAS  
DECIDED TO BUY A NUMBER OF USED COMMERCIAL VC-10 AIRCRAFT  
FOR CONVERSION AS AERIAL TANKERS. THE BRITISH PLAN TO  
FORM A SQUADRON OF EIGHT CONVERTED VC-10'S WHICH WILL  
ENTER OPERATIONAL SERVICE IN 1982/83 AND SUPPLEMENT THE  
TWO EXISTING VICTOR TANKER SQUADRONS.

2. PETERS STATED THAT THESE ADDITIONAL TANKERS WOULD  
SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCE THE RAF'S OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY  
BY GIVING UK FIGHTERS AND STRIKE AIRCRAFT GREATER RANGE  
AND LONGER ENDURANCE. BENNETT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES), MILITARY PLANS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978USNATO02842  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780121-0804  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** USNATO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780350/aaaabqhi.tel  
**Line Count:** 45  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 91927cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 1  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3279525  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UK TO CONVERT USED VC-10 AIRCRAFT TO TANKERS  
**TAGS:** MPOL, UK, NATO  
**To:** STATE DOD  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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